

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Hermansky et al.	Art Unit :	2654
Serial No. :	09/714,806	Examiner :	Angela A. Armstrong
Filed :	November 16, 2000	Confirmation No.:	3987
		Notice of Allowance Date:	12/22/2006
Title :	NONLINEAR MAPPING FOR FEATURE EXTRACTION IN AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION		

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant recognizes that in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1302.14, the Examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. In the above-referenced application, Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. In particular, Applicant does not concede that all of the identified limitations—i.e., “the prior art fails to specifically teach or fairly disclose a method of combining a neural network discriminative feature processing with Gaussian-mixture distribution modeling for a tandem speech recognition system that comprises transforming the distribution of a plurality of posterior probabilities into a Gaussian distribution; decorrelating the transformed posterior probabilities; and applying the de-correlated and transformed posterior probabilities as features to a Gaussian mixture model automatic speech recognition system”—are necessary to distinguish the prior art of record or to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Furthermore, the claims may be patentable for other reasons. In addition, dependent claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20 are allowable on their own merits, and are allowable on the basis of a sub-combination of the recited features of the dependent claims and their respective base claims.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 10637-006001

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 22, 2007



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